



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SUSPECTED MEXICAN NATIONAL SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON
FOR IDENTITY THEFT**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that in El Paso, United States District Judge Frank Montalvo sentenced 38-year-old Ruben Gastelum-Rascon to the statutory maximum five years in federal prison for identity theft.

The defendant was arrested by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials on November 25, 2007, at the Port of Entry while trying to enter the United States using a suspected fraudulent identification with the name of Jesus Lopez. Further investigation revealed that in the summer of 2002, the real Jesus Lopez reported to CBP that his identification had been stolen. With the stolen identification, the defendant was able to secure a Texas identification card, a Social Security card as well as over \$150,000 in credit, to which he ultimately defaulted on approximately \$90,000.

The case was investigated by agents with the Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection. Assistant United States Attorney Laura Gregory prosecuted this case for the Government.

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